

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 05056 182201Z

66

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10 OMB-01

/078 W

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R 180812Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5592

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 5056

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SY

SUBJ: ASAD VISIT FRONTLINE TROOPS DURING 'ID HOLIDAY

1. SYRIAN MEDIA HAVE HIGHLIGHTED THREE SUCCESSIVE DAYS PRES ASAD SPENT MEETING WITH FRONTLINE TROOPS DURING 'ID HOLIDAYS. ASAD'S REPORTED ADDRESSES STRESSED TRADITIONAL THEMES OF HOME FRONT SUPPORT FOR TROOPS, SIGNIFICANCE OF OCT WAR VICTORY, "DEFEATIST" SINAI AGREEMENT AND SYRIAN-SPONSORED PALESTINIAN VICTORIES AT UN. ASAD ASSERTED THAT SYRIA ONLY ACCEPTED SC RESOLUTION CALLING FOR CEASE-FIRE DURING 1973 HOSTILITIES ON BASIS OF COMPLETE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED LANDS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS. HE SAID THAT, WHILE SYRIA WILLING TO DEAL WITH EVERYONE WITH OPEN MIND IN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC FIELDS, SYRIA WOULD NOT LOOK FAVORABLY UPON ATTEMPTS BY "OTHERS" TO MAKE USE OF SYRIAN RECEPTIVITY TO "POLITICAL MOVEMENT" TO UNDERMINE GOALS FOR WHICH IT STRUGGLING.

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MURPHY

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